Your aprons mountant: You are not oathable,— Although, I know, you'll swear, terribly swear, Into strong shudders, and to heavenly agues, The immortal gods that hear you [5],—spare your
oaths,
Fll trust to your conditions [6]: Be whores still; And he whose pious breath seeks to convert you, Be strong in whore, allure him, burn him up; Let your close fire predominate his smoke, And be no turncoats[7]: Yet may your pains, six
months, Be quite contrary[8]: And thatch your poor thin
roofs[9]

s The immortal gods that hear you,,] The same thought is found in Antony and Cleopatra, Act. *L* Sc. III.

" Though you with swearing *shake the throned gods"* Again in The Winter's Tale :

** Though you would seek to unsphere the stars with oaths."

STEEVENS.

[6] I'll trust to your conditions :] You need not swear to con
tinue whores, I will trust to your inclinations. JOHNSON.

See vol. ix. p. 424, n. 1. MALONE.

Timon, I believe does not mean their *dispositions* but their *vocations,* and accordingly conjures them *to be whores still.*

M. MASON.

7And be no turncoats :] By an old statute, those women who
lived in a state of prostitution, were, among other articles con
cerning their dress, enjoined to wear their garments, with the
tvrong side outward, on pain of forfeiting them. Perhaps there is
in this passage a reference to it. HENLEY.

I do not perceive hnw this explanation of— turncoat, will accord with Timon's train of reasoning; yet the antiquary may perhaps derive satisfaction from that which affords no assistance to the commentator. STEEVENS.

[8] Yet may your PAINS, six months,
Be quite contrary:] This is obscure, partly from the ambiguity of the word *pains,* and partly from the generality of the expression. The meaning is this: he had said before, follow con-staritly your trade of debauchery: that is (says he) for six months in the year. Let the other six be employed in quite contrary pains and labour, namely, in the severe discipline necessary for the repair of those disorders that your debaucheries occasion, in order to fit you anew to the trade; and thus let the whole.year